

**REMARKS**

Claims 3, 15 and 18 are cancelled. New claims 23-25 have been added. Claims 2, 4-6, and 22 have been amended. Claims 2, 4-6 and 22-25 remain in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims, as amended, are respectfully requested.

The rejections of claims 3, 15 and 18 are rendered moot by the cancellation of claims 3, 15 and 18.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5 and 22. In accordance with the Examiner's indication, claims 5 and 22 have been rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. It is respectfully submitted that claims 5 and 22, as amended, are in condition for allowance.

Claims 2, 4, and 6, as amended, depend from independent claim 5. Claims 23-25 depend from independent claim 22. It is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 4, 6, and 23-25 are in condition for allowance for the same reasons as independent claims 5 and 22.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw outstanding objections and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 116692000300.

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Respectfully submitted,

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